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Serial No. 10/053,763

REMARKS

1. This paper is responsive to the office action of August 13, 2003.
2. In brief, the present invention is an AC electrical adapter.
3. The drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) since the drawings must show every feature of the inventions specified in the claims. The Examiner stated that, "Therefore, the a computer with power supply as recited in claims 15-21 and display, keyboard, mouse etc., recited in claim [18], must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s)." Claim 18 has been canceled, and the computer has been canceled from claims 15-17, and 19-21 to remove this objection.
4. Claims 1-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The Examiner stated that, "The claim(s) contains subject matter, which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. It is not clear where support for 'allowing movement in at least one axis within a plane parallel to a plane of the portion of said chassis to which said electrical adapter is configured to connect' as recited in claim 1, is found in the specification. It is also noted that the claim positively recites the adapter and not the chassis."
- However, applicant respectfully notes that in the specification at page 3, lines 18-21, the application states that, "The adapter may then move up and down, or side

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to side with respect to the backplane or chassis as needed to allow for misalignments in a bulk power supply as it is attached to the adapter 100 within the electrical device that the adapter 100 is attached to." This is describing the motion within a plane of said chassis as claimed in claim 1. Further, the
5 specification at page 6, lines 10-14 states, "The top view of the adapter shows the adapter 100 that is configured to connect to a backplane or chassis allowing movement in two axes. The example embodiment of the present invention includes two cutouts 300 configured to allow attachment to a backplane or chassis with some up and down, and side to side movement, but little in and out
10 movement with respect to the backplane or chassis." Once again, this describes motion of the adapter within a plane of said chassis as claimed in claim 1. These descriptions of the movement of the adapter within a plane of said chassis continue to occur throughout the remainder of the specification and are not listed here to prevent redundancy. While the exact wording of the claims is not
15 replicated in the specification, those skilled in the art, by reading the specification and claims and viewing the drawings will be able to easily understand the movement allowed the adapter within the chassis opening.

Thus, applicant sincerely believes that one skilled in the art to which this
20 invention pertains, from the description of the invention in the specification and the drawings will be able to understand that the adapter is configured to connect to a backplane or chassis allowing motion within a plane of said chassis as claimed in claim 1.

- 25 5. Claims 1-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject

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matter with which applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner stated that,
"It is not clear what is meant by 'allowing movement in at least one axis within a
plane parallel to a plane of the portion of said chassis to which said electrical
adapter is configured to connect.' Since 'within the plane' an infinite number of
5 lines or axes can be defined, 'at least one axis within a plane parallel to a plane of
the portion of the chassis' should define the axis more clearly. Also, it is not clear
how the 'adapter is configured to connect to said chassis allowing movement ...'
How the connection of the adapter to the chassis and movement are related?"

10 The Examiner is correct that within the plane an infinite number of lines or axes
can be defined, this is why applicant claimed at least one axis. The claim
language was used in an attempt to clarify that the adapter can move up and down
and side to side within the plane of the chassis, but is prevented from moving in
and out of the chassis, as described in the specification and noted above. Perhaps
15 this claim language is confusing. Applicant has amended claims 1, 5, 9, 12, 15,
and 19 to include the limitation that, wherein said electrical adapter is configured
to connect to said chassis allowing movement within a plane of said chassis thus
clarifying that the movement of the electrical adapter is in any direction within the
plane of the chassis.

- 20
6. Claims 1, 3, 5 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated
by Hagan (U.S. Pat. #: 3,938,068). The Examiner stated that, "Hagan in figures 1-
4, discloses an electrical adapter 20, comprising inside AC connector including
first, second and ground pins 36, 36, 38, and outside AC connector with first slot
25 44 connected to the first pin, second slot 44 connected to the second pin, and a

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ground slot 48 connected to the ground pin; and a ground wire 72 electrically connected to the ground pin and ground slot, wherein the ground wire is configured to be connected to a chassis 80 (column 5, lines 5-10), allowing movement of the connector in at least one axis." However, Hagan's adapter
5 allows movement **perpendicular** to the chassis where the plug is mounted. As noted in applicant's specification (page 3, lines 18-21), applicant's invention, "may then move up and down, or side to side with respect to the backplane as needed to allow for misalignments in a bulk power supply as it is attached to the adapter 100 within the electrical device that the adapter 100 is attached to." This
10 backplane is a portion of the chassis where the adapter is attached or configured to attach. This limitation distinguishes the movement allowed by applicant's invention from that shown by Hagan. Independent claims 1, 5, 9, 12, 15, and 19 have all been amended to clarify applicant's invention with the limitation that, "said electrical adapter is configured to connect to said chassis allowing
15 movement within a plane of said chassis." Thus applicant's invention moves **within the plane of the chassis** while Hagan's invention moves **perpendicular to the chassis** as it is being plugged in. Since Hagan does not include this limitation, applicant believes claims 1 and 5 to be in a condition for allowance over Hagan. Also since claims 3 and 7 are dependent upon independent claims 1 and 5
20 respectively, they contain all the limitations of the independent claims including the limitation that, "said electrical adapter is configured to connect to said chassis allowing movement within a plane of said chassis" thus applicant believes claims 3 and 7 to be in a condition for allowance over Hagan.

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7. Claims 2, 4, 6, and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hagan (U.S. Pat. #: 3,938,068) in view of Haas et al. (U.S. Pat. #: 5,735,712). However, since all of applicant's independent claims have been clarified with the limitation that, "said electrical adapter is configured to connect to said chassis allowing movement within a plane of said chassis," and neither Hagan nor Haas teach, disclose, claim or suggest that limitation, applicant believes independent claims 1, 5, 9, 12, 15, and 19 to be in condition for allowance, and thus also all of applicants dependent claims also to be in condition for allowance.

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8. Claims 9-21 were allowed, but subject to 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejections. As discussed above, the specification and drawings fully support the claim limitation that the electrical adapter is configured to connect to said chassis allowing movement within a plane of said chassis, thus applicant sincerely believes that claims 9-21 are in condition for allowance, and not subject to 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejections.

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9. For these reasons, this application is considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

5 by 

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